



THE COMMUNICATOR

Grant County Employee Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 3
July 2008

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Meet the New County Board Chair, John Patcle...

John Patcle was elected County Board Chair in April of this year and has been on the County Board of Supervisors since 1998. He recently retired from the US Postal Service after six years of service. He resides in Potosi and operates a 620 acre farm with his wife Cheryl. They have five daughters (plus one deceased) and eleven grandchildren.

Mr. Patcle becomes County Board Chair at a most challenging time. His first order of business is to complete a plan to reorganize the County Board of Supervisors after a referendum passed that reduces the board size from 31 to 17.



Get to know John...

I like to read: Hunting magazines and newspapers

My favorite food is: Steak

In my spare time, I like to: 1) Spend time with my grandchildren
2) Elk hunt
3) Deer hunt

What I like best about Grant County is:

The people are easy to work with and the topography is great for farming and recreation

My favorite music is: Country

Words from John...

The first two and half months went well and the redistricting committee has two plans to bring before the County Board at the July 15th meeting. If one is approved, the Committee on Committees will start to work on restructuring the committees. The Board would like to combine the committees on January 1, 2009 to make sure they will work. We will be working closely with the Finance Director, Nancy Scott, and the Finance Committee to get the 2009 budget underway.

I am looking forward to meeting and working with Grant County staff to continue to provide services to the public efficiently and effectively for years to come.



Plan to attend the 153rd *Grant County Fair*

August 10th – 17th

Log onto www.grantcountyfairwi.org for more information.

Anyone wishing to have a specific subject discussed in a future newsletter may contact Joyce Roling at 723-2045.



Service Anniversaries (5 year increments)



Thomas Taber, 30 years on July 1st
Luann Bendorf, 30 years on July 17th
Verda Nemo, 30 years on July 18th
Carol Fecht, 30 years on September 5th
Rita Noble, 30 years on September 6th
Kay Vincent, 30 years on September 11th

Judy Boebel, 20 years on July 11th
Laura Tollefson, 20 years on July 25th
Jack Johnson, 20 years on August 8th

Patricia Mercaitis, 15 years on July 28th
Fred Naatz, 15 years on August 9th
Joann Koeller, 15 years on September 27th

Carol Lewis, 10 years on July 6th
Leroy Pickel, 10 years on July 13th
Betty Steiger, 10 years on July 18th
Amy Esser, 10 years on August 17th
Brian Monahan, 10 years on September 27th



Virginia Lochner, 5 years on July 16th
Jenny Belscamper, 5 years on September 8th
Teresa Putchio, 5 years on September 8th

**Congratulations
on reaching these milestones!
Thank you.**



Life and a Cup of Coffee



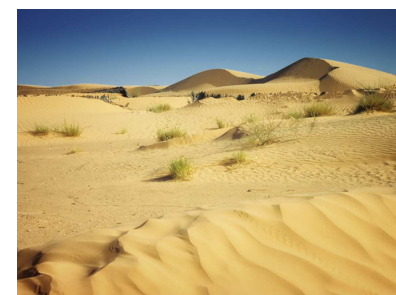
When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar.....and the coffee.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "Yes."

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.



"Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life.

The golf balls are the important things--your family, your children, your health, your friends, your favorite passions--things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else--the small stuff."

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness.

Play with your children.

Take time to get medical checkups.

Take your spouse out to dinner.

Play another 18 holes.

There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. "Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and enquired what the coffee represented.

The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a cup of coffee with your friend."



Author Unknown

Professionalism Quick Test

The purpose of this Quick Test is to stimulate your thinking about the importance of professionalism and identify any quick and easy steps you can take to polish your professional image and behavior. Simply go through the questions and answer yes or no for each question. Then check your scoring below.

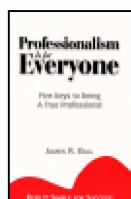
Do You . . .

1. ☐ Hold the door open to let others pass through first?
2. ☐ Wait for everyone at the table to be seated before starting to eat?
3. ☐ Always chew with your mouth closed?
4. ☐ Keep your elbows off the table and avoid slurping your soup?
5. ☐ Refrain from using profanity, crude, or vulgar language?
6. ☐ Put things away and tidy up your work area before leaving for the day?
7. ☐ Pick up trash you see on the floor?
8. ☐ Say please and thanks often when interacting with others?
9. ☐ Invite newcomers into your circle of friends and conversation?
10. ☐ Lower your voice when using your cell phone?
11. ☐ Listen when others are speaking?
12. ☐ Go out of your way to welcome a new associate and ask if you can do anything to help him or her?
13. ☐ Remain patient when the person waiting on you is taking a very long time to ring up your purchase?
14. ☐ Send a thank you note on a timely basis when you receive a gift?
15. ☐ Drop someone a note when he or she is ill, has a setback, or suffers a loss in his or her family?
16. ☐ Refrain from being angry and hostile in person or in email?
17. ☐ Help someone who is struggling to put his or her bag in the overhead compartment of the airplane?
18. ☐ Allow someone waiting on a side road to enter the road in front of you (assuming it is safe)?
19. ☐ Take time to fix your hair, press your clothes, and polish your shoes before going to work?
20. ☐ Arrive a little early so you can start work on time?
21. ☐ Arrive on time for your appointments?
22. ☐ Check your work before you turn it in and deliver it on time?
23. ☐ Exercise self-control when someone cuts you off in traffic or gives you a repugnant hand gesture?
24. ☐ Tell the truth, admit your mistakes, and avoid being defensive?
25. ☐ Avoid yelling or raising your voice to make your point or get your way?
26. ☐ Always transact your affairs with people and organizations in a fair and an equitable manner?
27. ☐ Avoid speaking or referring to people in a derogatory or mean tone or style?
28. ☐ Act in a humble manner and avoid bragging and talking about yourself and your accomplishments?
29. ☐ Avoid gossiping and spreading rumors?
30. ☐ Invest some of your own time to develop your personal skills and expertise?

Scoring:

- ☐ 29-30 yes answers – Mastery/Outstanding – a true professional
- ☐ 27-28 yes answers – Satisfactory/Acceptable – professional in most respects, needs minor polishing
- ☐ 25-26 yes answers – Intolerable – behavior is not professional and several areas need attention
- ☐ 24 or less yes answers – Counterproductive – behavior is not professional and is limiting progress, growth, and opportunities

Professionalism *Is* for Everyone – Five Keys to Being a True Professional



The above Quick Test is based upon the book, *Professionalism Is for Everyone*, by James R. Ball, and related seminar from The Goals Institute where he is president. For information about the book or related seminars and available trainer resources, please visit www.goalpower.com.

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